

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 GABORO 00765 230008Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-01 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06 OES-07
SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 IO-13 /134 W
-----093754 231327Z /47

R 161330Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1815
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY MASERU
AMEMBASSY MBABANE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD UNSC PFOR BC
SUBJ: BOTSWANA TO BEGIN OIL STORAGE PROJECT

REF: (A) 77 GABORONE 3223, (B) 77 GABORONE 2878

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. GOB MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY M.P.K. NWAHO RECENTLY
ANNOUNCED IN PARLIAMENT THAT INITIAL STAGE OF BOTSWANA'S
OIL STORAGE PROJECT WILL GET UNDER WAY IN JUNE AND CONTINUE
THROUGHOUT 1979. PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO COST P3.5 MILLION IN
CONSTRUCTION COSTS AND P2.6 MILLION FOR ACQUISITION OF
PETROLEUM STOCKS. NWAHO TOLD PARLIAMENT THAT STORAGE TANKS
PLANNED FOR GABORONE AND FRANCISTOWN WILL PROVIDE STOCKPILES
OF GASOLINE, DIESEL FUEL AND PARAFFIN SUFFICIENT FOR THREE
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MONTHS SHOULD OUTSIDE SUPPLIES BE CUT OFF. ACCORDING TO NWAHO,
BOTSWANA'S ECONOMY CONSUMES 140 MILLION LITERS OF PETROLEUM
PRODUCTS EVERY YEAR. END UNCLASSIFIED

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2. COMMENT: STOCKPILE OF SIZE CURRENTLY PLANNED BY GOB WOULD

DO LITTLE TO REDUCE BOTSWANA'S VULNERABILITY TO CUTOFF OF OIL
SUPPLIES FROM SOUTH AFRICA. HOWEVER, SHOULD SUPPLIES BE
INTERRUPTED FOR ANY REASON (INCLUDING WESTERN OIL SANCTIONS
AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA), STOCKPILE WOULD AT LEAST BUY A FEW
WEEKS' TIME FOR GOB TO APPEAL FOR INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE.
NORLAND

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: PETROLEUM, STORAGE
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Draft Date: 16 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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